

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: QWEST CORPORATION, f/k/a U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	DOCKET NO. TF-00-250 (RPU-98-4)
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ORDER EXTENDING EFFECTIVE DATE OF PROPOSED TARIFF

(Issued January 17, 2001)

On October 3, 2000, Qwest Corporation, f/k/a U S WEST Communications, Inc. (Qwest), filed a proposed tariff with the Utilities Board (Board) designed to reduce certain rates to comply with Qwest's price regulation plan. The proposed tariffs were identified as Docket No. TF-00-250. On December 21 and 22, 2000, the Board ordered that Qwest file new proposed tariffs on or before December 29, 2000, with an effective date of January 16, 2001, and gave parties until January 8, 2001, to file objections to the proposed tariffs.

On December 29, 2000, Qwest in conjunction with an application for rehearing filed two sets of proposed tariffs in compliance with the Board's orders. In the application, Qwest asserts that the Board improperly denied the offsetting of the price plan rate reduction by the CentrexPlus rate reduction, and Qwest stated that it filed the two sets of proposed tariffs to comply with whichever decision the Board reached on the application for rehearing.

Qwest also stated in the application for rehearing that it believed the effective date of the proposed decrease should be November 7, 2000. Qwest stated that it intended to retroactively apply the decrease to that date, regardless of the effective date of the tariffs. Qwest requested that the Board allow 30 days to implement the revised rate on a monthly billing cycle, which Qwest asserts will not affect the amount of the decrease.

On January 8, 2001, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed an "Objection To Tariff." Consumer Advocate objected to the filing of the proposed tariffs that reflect the CentrexPlus offset. Consumer Advocate also objected to the calculations of the rates in the proposed tariffs and asserted that interest should be paid on the rate decrease being held by Qwest.

On January 10, 2001, Consumer Advocate filed an "Application For Rehearing" asserting that the Board incorrectly interpreted Qwest's price regulation plan. Consumer Advocate specifically, among other assertions, renews its contention that the last published GDPPI in 1999 before the anniversary date of the plan, November 7, 1999, was the one published in the October Survey of Current Business and its contention that the price plan requires Qwest to reduce rates across-the-board.

The order of December 22, 2000, provided that the proposed tariffs have an effective date of January 16, 2000. The Board will be unable to address Qwest's application for rehearing and Consumer Advocate's objection and application for

rehearing before that date. Iowa Code § 476.12 (1999) states that the filing of an application for rehearing shall not stay the effectiveness of the order unless the Board so directs.

The Board will direct that the effective date of the proposed tariffs, both sets, be extended until further order of the Board. This action will allow the Board time to consider the application for rehearing and the objection to the tariffs.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The effective date of the proposed tariffs filed by Qwest Corporation on December 29, 2000, is hereby extended until further order of the Board.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper /s/ Diane Munns
Acting Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 17th day of January, 2001.